INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern I Application No PCT/US 03/28491

| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01B3/00 H01B3/18 | | | |
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| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | | |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) | | | |
| IPC 7 HO1B | | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | | |
| Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) | | | |
| EPO-Internal, WPI Data | | | |
| C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | | Relevant to claim No. |
| X | US 5 798 427 A (VOGEL ROBERT HAROLD ET AL) 25 August 1998 (1998-08-25) column 11, line 35 - line 43; claims 8,15-18 column 2, line 45 - line 52 | | 1-9 |
| х | EP 0 743 327 A (UNION CARBIDE CHEM PLASTIC) 20 November 1996 (1996-11-20) claims 5,6,8-10 | | 1-9 |
| х | US 5 998 558 A (ADAMS JAMES LAMONTE ET AL) 7 December 1999 (1999-12-07) claims 1,11,13,15,17 | | 1-9 |
| Х | EP 1 038 889 A (UNION CARBIDE CHEM PLASTIC) 27 September 2000 (2000-09-27) page 7, line 10 - line 13; claim 1 | | 1 |
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| Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. | | | |
| *T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the | | | |
| considered to be of particular relevance invention invention invention invention invention filling date considered to be operational filling date. | | | |
| *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the | | | ocument is taken alone claimed invention ventive step when the |
| other means ments, such come in the art. | | ments, such combination being obvio | us to a person skilled |
| | | Date of mailing of the International search report | |
| 12 January 2004 | | 20/01/2004 | |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA | | Authorized officer | |
| European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo n!, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 | | Marsitzky, D | |

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